Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02266 020726Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 DEAE-00 /051 W

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R 020640Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3912

CONFIDENTIAL RANGOON 2266

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJ: BURMESE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON PROTECTIVE ARMOR DEVICES FOR HELICOPTERS

1. IN A DISCUSSION OF OPERATION MOHEIN III WITH THE AIR ATTACHE, BURMA ARMY ARTILLERY AND ARMOR DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR COL. SEIN TUN MENTIONED THAT THE BELL 205A HELICOPTERS USED IN THE OPERATION "TOOK THREE HITS" FROM GROUND FIRE, ALTHOUGH NONE WERE DOWNED OR FORCED TO LAND AS A RESULT. (HE DID NOT SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT TAKING ONE OR MORE HITS OR THE CALIBER OF WEAPON USED; APPARENTLY THE DAMAGE WAS NOT SERIOUS.) HE STRESSED THAT ALL THE INSURGENT/TRAFFICKING GROUPS ARE WELL ARMED, AND HE EMPHASIZED THE REAL POSSIBILITY, IN SOME FUTURE ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATION, OF LOSING A HELICOPTER WITH ITS LOAD OF TROOPS AS A RESULT OF THE PILOT'S BEING HIT BY GROUND FIRE DURING A CRITICAL FLIGHT PHASE.

2. ONE OF THE BURMESE PILOTS, COL. SEIN TUN CONTINUED, HAD CALLED HIS ATTENTION TO AN AIRCREW PROTECTION DEVICE (BULLET RESISTANT MATERIAL PARTIALLY SURROUNDING THE PILOT'S AND CO-PILOT'S POSITIONS) ON THE THAI POLICE HELICOPTER DETAINED BY THE BURMESE DURING MOHEIN III. COL. SEIN TUN ASKED IF WE COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THIS OR SIMILAR AIRCREW PROTECTIVE DEVICES WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE. CONFIDENTIAL

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- 3. SUBSEQUENTLY, AIR STAFF COLONEL KO GYI CONFIRMED TO ADCM THE GUB'S INTEREST IN EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF INSTALLING SUCH PROTECTIVE DEVICES ON THE BELL 205-A'S.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST THAT ON HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT RUDY HALL BRING INFORMATION ON THESE TYPES OF DEVICES,

INCLUDING WHAT IS AVAILABLE AND APPROXIMATE COST.
BARTLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: HELICOPTERS Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 02-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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